reported that the Government business in the State of Tripura is being handled by two public sector banks *viz.* State bank of India and United Bank of India, who have committed infrastructure in the State which has established in that area. Reserve Bank of India has only one office in the 7 North-Eastern States at Guwahati, which caters to the needs of all these States, including Assam, the functions pertaining to Government transactions in the States where RBI does not have an office have been delegated to the State Bank of India and other public sector banks which are having wide branch network. RBI is of the view that presently there is no need for it to open a sub-office at Tripura. RBI has further reported that it is its endeavour to focus on core central banking activities and distance itself from retail banking business.

National Savings Organisation

†2314. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the time, when the National Savings Organisation was set up and Government's objective for setting up the same;

(b) the administrative expenditure incurred on the National Savings Organisation each year;

(c) the year-wise gross and net collections of National Savings Organisation since its inception to year 2000-2001; and

(d) the assessment conducted by the Ministry of Finance with regard to its work since its inception to year 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) National Savings Organisation (NSO) was constituted in 1948 with the objective of inculcating the habit of thrift and savings among the masses and for promoting small savings schemes of the Government of India.

(b) Administrative expenditure on the NSO during 1999-2000 was Rs. 17.29 crore. Revised Estimates in 2000-01 were Rs. 18.45 crore and Budget Estimates during the current financial year are Rs. 20.89 crore.

(c) Year-wise gross and net small savings collections from 1977-78 to 2000-2001 (provisional) are given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) National Savings Organisation (NSO) was established at a time when the banking system in the country was underdeveloped. Banking habits

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of the general masses have significantly developed over the years. NSO has played an important part in product design and development, marketing and product promotion, market research, customer service and investors' grievance redressal, training and development of personnel etc.

STATEMENT

Small savings collections over the years

Sl. No.	Year	Gross Collections	Net Collections
1	2	3	4
1	1977–1978	2037.29	560.90
2	1978–1979	2583.91	880.92
3	1979–1980	2921.93	1143.83
4	1980–1981	3266.58	1176.52
5	1981–1982	3945.49	1464.13
6	1982–1983	4463.00	1828.05
7	1983–1984	5672.11	2535.91
8	1984–1985	7199.82	3715.41
9	1985–1986	8571.07	4368.71
10	1986–1987	8384.52	3410.66
11	1987–1988	9916.61	3911.42
12	1988–1989	13064.93	5835.05
13	1989–1990	17149.45	8574.88
14	1990–1991	18904.69	9089.49
15	1991–1992	18571.42	6626.02
16	1992–1993	19366.06	5713.74
17	1993–1994	27280.06	9083.24
18	1994–1995	37465.94	16556.44
19	1995–1996	36643.50	12732.67
20	1996–1997	37973.16	15223.46
21	1997–1998	51811.15	24442.92
22	1998–1999	62049.51	32943.60
23	1999–2000	75434.71	38570.52
24	2000–2001 (provisional)	88468.41	45357.24